

LTC Budihas enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1987 as a rifleman. His first assignment was as a CQB team leader at Fleet Anti-Terrorist Strike Team, Kings Bay, GA. He then served as a scout squad leader in 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines, participating in Operations DESERT SHIELD/ STORM. In 1992, he was selected for an enlisted commissioning program.

In 1994, LTC Budihas was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate in the infantry. He served as a rifle platoon leader and 81mm mortar platoon leader in 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines (Special Operations Capable). In 1995, LTC Budihas participated in counternarcotics operations as part of JOINT TASK FORCE-6. In 1996-97, he deployed with 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), as the 81mm platoon leader and TRAP Force Commander during OPERATIONS SEA SOLDIER, VIGIL SENTINEL and SOUTHERN WATCH. From July 1997-June 2000, LTC Budihas was a Staff Commander, Executive Officer, and Tactics Instructor at the Marine Corps' Infantry Officer Course. LTC Budihas was discharged into the Marine Corps Reserve in June 2000.

LTC Budihas came on active duty in the U.S. Army in 2001. He joined 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry in November 2001 and served as the Battalion Assistant Operations Officer during OPERATION JOINT FORGE in Bosnia. He commanded Alpha Company, serving as its commander in OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM II, then served as the 2nd BDE, 25th ID Assistant Operations Officer. From June 2005-06, LTC Budihas attended the Army Command & General Staff College. From June 2006-07, he served as the 3ID, G-3 Chief of Current Operations deploying in March 2007 to OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 07-09 (OIF V). In June 2007, LTC Budihas assumed duties as Battalion Operations Officer for 1-64 Armor, fighting in West Baghdad. In July 2008, LTC Budihas became the 2BCT Executive Officer. Following this assignment in June 2009, LTC Budihas was selected to be the aide-de-camp for the Combined Arms Center Commanding General at Fort Leavenworth, KS. From June 2010 to 2011, he attended the Army's School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS). LTC Budihas' previous assignment was serving as the Deputy Chief of Staff, 7th Army JMTTC at Grafenwoehr.

LTC Budihas' military schools include: Marine Corps' Basic Training, Officer Candidate Schools, Officer Basic School and Infantry Officer Course; the Infantry Captain's Career Course; Combined Arms and Service Staff School; Army's Command & General Staff College; the School of Advanced Military Study (SAMS), Airborne School; Air Assault School and Rappel Master's Course; Ranger School; SERE Course; Mountain Warfare and Cold Weather Survival School; and Anti-Terrorist Tactics Course.

His civilian education includes: a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Jacksonville University, Florida; and Master's Degrees in Management & Leadership from Webster University; and a Master's Degree in Military Arts and Sciences from SAMS.

His personal awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal w/ OLC, Meritorious Service Medal w/ 2 OLC, Army Commendation Medal w/ 2 OLC, Army Achievement Medal, Navy/Marine Achievement Medal w/ gold star, Marine Corps Combat Action Ribbon, Army VUC w/ 3 OLCs, Army MUC w/ 3 OLCs, Navy Unit Citation w/ bronze star, Navy Battle "E," Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal w/ bronze star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal w/ bronze star, Iraqi Campaign Medal w/ 2 bronze stars, GWOT Expeditionary Medal, GWOT Service Medal, Southwest Asia Medal w/ 2 bronze stars, NATO Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon w/ numeral #3, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon w/ bronze star, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Saudi Arabia Kuwait Liberation Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, and Air Assault Badge.